रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मल्लिकार्जुन): (क) जी, हां, लेकिन यूनाइटेड कमर्शियल बैंक में कोई धनराशि जमा नहीं कराई गई थी;

(ख) वर्ष 1990-91 और 1991-92 के दौरान, भारतीय रेल वित्त निगम द्वारा सिटी बैंक और कैनबैंक फाइनेंशियल सर्विसेज लिमिटेड के पास जमा कराई गई धनराशि का ब्यौरा नीचे दिया गया है;—

वर्ष	सिटी बैंक	कैनबैंक फाइनेंशियल सर्विसेज (कैनफिना)
1990-91	50.19 करोड़ रुपये	621.83 करोड़ रुपये
1991-92	67.65 करोड़ रुपये	1360.53 करोड़ रुपये

(ग) से (घ) जहां तक 1990-91 के दौरान जमा कराई गई धनराशि का संबंध है निगम को वह सभी राशि प्राप्त हो गई है, जो उसे देय थी। 1992-93 के दौरान कैनफिना के पास जमा कराये गये 95.85 करोड़ रुपये में से देय तिथि को कोई राशि प्राप्त नहीं हुई थी। लेकिन 40 करोड़ रुपये की राशि किस्तों में प्राप्त हो गई है।

(ङ) कोंकण रेल परियोजना को पूरा करने की लक्ष्य तिथि अक्तूबर, 94 है, कोंकण परियोजना के लिए बांडों के फलीभूत होने में यदि और विलम्ब होता है, तो धन की तंगी से इस लक्ष्य की पूर्ति पर प्रभाव पड़ सकता है। बहरहाल, अभी इतनी जल्दी इसका सही-सही अनुमान लगा पाना कठिन है।

Late running of Darjeeling Mail and Kanchanjunga Express

*28 SHRIMATI SARALA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Darjeeling Mail and Kanchanjunga Express are mostly running late; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to run these two trains in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) During October 1992, Darjeeling Mail and Kanchanjunga Express reached their destination right time on 22 days. Similarly during November 1992 (upto 20th) these trains reached right time on 13 days.

(b) Instructions already exist to ensure punctual running of trains by intensive chasing and round the clock monitoring. Extraneous factors like bandhs, agitations on issues not concerning railways, miscreant activities including unauthorised alarm chain pulling and thefts of Railway property etc., however, continue to affect punctuality of trains.

Damage to Railway track near Trichy

*29. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a major train accident was averted by the timely action of the Driver who spotted damage in the railway track near Trichy when Madras Quilon Express was moving, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government have ordered any inquiry into the incident, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any evidence of involvement of LTTE militants' in this incident has been detected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARAJUN): (a) On 24.10.92, Train No. 6105 Madras-Quilon Express stopped between Kallagam-Kallakkudi Palanganatham stations of Ariyalur. Tiruchahirapplli section of Sourthern Railway, at about 02.20 hrs. in the night due to two rail length of track damage on bridge No.276. This was possible due to the alertness of the Driver of the Train.

(b) "Q" branch of C.I.D. is investigating the case as ordered by Director General of Police, Tamilnadu.

(c) the matter is still under investigation by the Tamil Nadu Police.

Development of National Highways in Kerala

*30. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE

TRANSPORT be pleased to state the details of the proposed projects, for the development of the National Highway in Kerala together with the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): Demands for Grants for 1992-93 contain a provision for sanction of new development works costing Rs. 123.13 crores on National Highways in Kerala, with likely expenditure of Rs. 488 lakhs in the current financial year.

Atomic Absorption Meter in Government Hospitals of Delhi

*31. SHRI RAMJI LAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Atomic Absorption Meter (Blood Scan Machine) are not available in the Government Hospitals in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the patients are compelled to go to Toxicology Blood Poison Test Laboratory, Lucknow, Madras or to a private MRI, Sudarshan Aggarwal Hospital, Curzon Road, New Delhi;

(c) the number of patients including VVIPs who were referred by the AIIMS New Delhi and PGI, Chandigarh to Toxicology Poison Test Laboratory, Lucknow during the last year; alongwith the deaths of patients occuring due to time factor owing to visit to Lucknow;

(d) whether Government propose to instal Atomic Absorption Meter immediately in AIIMS, New Delhi and PGI, Chandigarh; and

(e) if so, by when this machine is likely to be installed there?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) to (e) The question probably refers to an Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer which is used for detecting metalic trace elements in the blood. Normally, such sophisticated machines are not available in Government hospitals and are usually assigned to research institutions. The machine is available at the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh which have been conducting approximately 150 test per months on their Atomic Absorption Spectophotometer. Very few cases have been referred to ITRC, Lucknow due to non-avaliability of gas at certain periods. The P.G.I. Chandigarh is engaged in blood testing for several toxic matters like arsenic, lead, copper, zinc and magnesium.

The Sudershan Aggarwal Diagnostic Centre, New Delhi does not possess any such machine.

At the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, the machine was being used for research on fertility control. Efforts were made to get it repaired but the same could not be achieved as the equipment was found to be beyond repair.

It has been decided to acquire a new machine for A.I.I.M.S.

Increase in the prices of petroleum products

*32. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of petroleum products except Kerosene for domestic use have been increased heavily with effect from 15.9.92;

(b) if so, the details of the increase made in the prices of different petroleum products; and

(c) the reasons for increasing the prices when the international prices of Crude and Petroleum products are on the downturn?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) In order